



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Senator Jerry Petrowski
Representative John Spiros

January 16, 2018

(608) 266-2502

(608) 266-1182

Assembly Bill 475 Increases Safety for All Drivers

Madison, WI...Today, the State Assembly unanimously passed Assembly Bill 475, authored by Representative John Spiros (*R-Marshfield*) and Senator Jerry Petrowski (*R-Marathon*). AB 475 updates existing lighting requirements for slowing moving, animal-drawn vehicles in order to ensure our roadways stay safe for all drivers. This bill would replace the requirement for the 2 red lights in the rear of the vehicle with 2 yellow or amber strobing lights to be mounted on the rear of the vehicle, visible from 500 feet. This bill does not prohibit the red lights currently required, but rather removes their mandated use in favor of a better alternative.

“Public safety is paramount on our roads and this bill helps all drivers stay safe while sharing the roadway,” said Rep. Spiros. “The goal of Assembly Bill 475 is to increase awareness of slow moving vehicles, requiring a more universally understood caution light, such as the yellow or amber strobing light, so that all motorists and users of the road will be better protected from tragedy.”

Because a yellow or amber strobe light is a commonly understood caution light already used on numerous slow-moving vehicles, utilization of a yellow or amber strobing light on the rear of animal drawn vehicles will be more easily understood by motorists as a sign to slow down and use caution on approach.

“We’ve seen far too many deadly accidents involving buggies and motorized vehicles recently in central Wisconsin,” said Senator Petrowski. “Anything we can do at the state level to reduce the chance of another tragedy is absolutely worthwhile.”

AB 475 has to be taken up by the State Senate for a vote before it can be signed into law by Governor Walker.

###